

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 2:00 PM and will proceed to a period of morning business.

The Senate convened and proceeded to a period of morning business. There will be no roll call votes during Monday's session. The first roll call vote of the week is expected around 2:15 PM on Tuesday, April 1, 2008 on the Motion to Invoke Cloture on the Motion to Proceed to H.R. 3221 (Legislative Vehicle for Housing Bill).

S. Res. 492 (Amending majority party membership on the Select Committee on Membership for the remainder of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 478 (Supporting the goals and ideals of World Water Day). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 484 (National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day). Agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate will convene at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, April 1, 2008 and will proceed to a period of morning business until 12:30 PM. The Senate will recess from 12:30 PM-2:15 PM for weekly party caucuses. At 2:15 PM, the Senate will proceed to the Motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the Motion to proceed to H.R. 3221 (Legislative Vehicle for Housing Bill). At 2:30 PM, the Senate will vote on the Motion to Invoke Cloture on the Motion to Proceed to H.R. 3221 (Legislative Vehicle for Housing Bill).

The Senate adjourned at 5:40 PM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 9:00 AM on Thursday, March, 27 2008 for a Pro Forma session. The Senate will then recess until 2:00 PM on Monday, March 31, 2008 and will proceed to a period of morning business.

The Senate convened at 9:00 AM and recessed at 9:03 AM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 10:00 AM for a Pro Forma session. The Senate will then recess until 9:00 AM on Thursday, March, 27 2008 for a Pro Forma session. The Senate will then recess until 2:00 PM on Monday, March 31, 2008 and will proceed to a period of morning business.

The Senate convened at 10:00 AM and adjourned at 10:03 AM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 12:00 PM for a pro forma session. The Senate will then recess until 11:00 AM on Friday, March, 21 2008 for a pro forma session. The Senate will then recess until 10:00 AM on Monday, March 24, 2008 for a pro forma session. The Senate will then recess until 9:00 AM on Thursday, March 27, 2008 for a pro forma session.

The Senate will then recess until 2:00 PM on Monday, March 31, 2008 and will proceed to a period of morning business.

## SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2008

The Senate will convene at 10:15 AM and proceed to a moment of silence to five years of service and sacrifice of our troops and our families for the war in Iraq and remember our troops serving in Afghanistan and throughout the world. Following the moment of silence, the Senate will resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 70 (Concurrent Budget Resolution). The "vote-a-rama" will begin as early as 11:00 AM. Votes are expected to occur throughout the day.

### **S. Con. Res. 70 (Budget Resolution).**

Baucus amend #4160 (To provide tax relief to middle-class families and small businesses, property tax relief to homeowners, relief to those whose homes were damaged or destroyed by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and tax relief to America's troops and veterans). The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **99-1**.

Graham amend #4170 (To protect families, family farms and small businesses by extending the income tax rate structure, raising the death tax exemption to \$5 million and reducing the maximum death tax rate to no more than 35%; to keep education affordable by extending the college tuition deduction; and to protect senior citizens from higher taxes on their retirement income, maintain U.S. financial market competitiveness, and promote economic growth by extending the lower tax rates on dividends and capital gains), as modified. The amendment was not agreed to **47-52**.

Bingaman amend #4173 (To provide additional funding resources in FY2009 for investments in innovation and education in order to improve the competitiveness of the United States). **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Conrad amend #4190 (To add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for repealing the 1993 rate increase for the alternative minimum tax for individuals). The amendment was agreed to **53-46**.

Specter amend #4189 (To repeal section 13202 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 by restoring the Alternative Minimum Tax rates that had been in effect prior thereto). The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **49-50**. Gregg motion to reconsider. Conrad motion to table the motion to reconsider. The motion to table the motion to reconsider was not agreed to by a vote of **49-51**. The vote on the motion to reconsider the amendment was **50-50**. The Vice President voted in the affirmative, and the motion was **agreed to**.

Specter amend #4189 (To repeal section 13202 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 by restoring the Alternative Minimum Tax rates that had been in effect prior thereto). The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **49-51**.

Salazar amend #4196 (To reform the estate tax to avoid subjecting thousands of families, family businesses, and family farms and ranches to the estate tax), as modified. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **38-62**.

Kyl amend #4191 (To protect small businesses, family ranches, and farms from the Death Tax by providing a \$5 million exemption, a low rate for smaller estates and a maximum rate no higher than 35%). The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **50-50**.

Conrad amend #4204 (To add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for repealing the 1993 increase in the income tax on Social Security benefits). The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **53-46**.

Bunning amend #4192 (To repeal the tax increase on Social Security benefits imposed by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993), as modified. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **47-53**.

Specter amend #4203 (To increase funding for the National Institutes of Health and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program). The amendment was agreed to **95-4**.

Dorgan amend #4198 (To increase the Indian Health Service by \$1 billion in FY 2009). The amendment was agreed to **69-30**.

Nelson amend #4329 (To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve energy efficiency and production). The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **56-43**.

Alexander amend #4207 (To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve energy efficiency and production), as modified. The amendment was not agreed to by a vote of **47-51**.

Kennedy amend #4151 (To add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for increasing federal student loan limits to protect students against disruptions in the private credit markets). **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Lincoln amend #4194 (To provide the Veterans Benefits Administration with additional resources to more effectively meet their increasing workload and to better address the unacceptably large claims backlog). **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Sununu amend #4221 (To save lives, promote overall health care efficiency, and lower the cost of the delivery of health care services by facilitating the deployment and use of electronic prescribing technologies by physicians). **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Kerry amend #4332 (To promote modernization on the health care system through the adoption of electronic prescribing technology). **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Kennedy amend #4350 (To increase funding for the Department of Education's English Literacy-Civics Education State Grant program, with an offset). The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **95-2**.

Alexander amend #4222 (To take \$670,000 used by the EEOC in bringing actions against employers that require their employees to speak English, and instead use the money to teach English to adults through the Department of Education's English Literacy/Civics Education State Grant program). The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **54-44**.

Menendez amend #4259 (To establish a reserve fund for immigration reform and enforcement). The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **53-45**.

Sessions amend #4231 (To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund for border security, immigration enforcement, and criminal alien removal programs). The amendment was agreed to **61-37**.

Cornyn amend #4242 (To protect the family budget by providing for a budget point of order against legislation that increases income taxes on taxpayers, including hard-working middle-income families, entrepreneurs, and college students). Conrad Point of Order that the amendment violates the Budget Act. Cornyn Motion to Waive the Budget Act. The motion was not agreed to **59-39**. The point of order was sustained and the amendment falls.

Pryor amend #4181 (To add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for Science Parks). **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Allard amend #4246 (To raise taxes by an unprecedented \$1.4 trillion for the purpose of fully funding 111 new or expanded federal spending programs). The amendment was not agreed to **0-97**.

Nelson amend #4212 (To create additional jobs and make a lasting investment in our national infrastructure by increasing Fiscal Year 2008 infrastructure stimulus funding by designating \$3.5 billion in existing stimulus funding in the resolutions emergency discretionary funding). Agreed to by voice.

Ensign amend #4240 (To require wealthy Medicare beneficiaries to pay a greater share of their Medicare Part D premiums). The amendment was not agreed to **42-56**.

Sanders amend #4218 (To put children ahead of millionaires and billionaires by restoring the pre-2001 top income tax rate for people earning over \$1 million, and use this revenue to invest in LIHEAP, IDEA, Head Start, Child Care, nutrition, school construction and deficit reduction). The amendment was not agreed to **43-55**.

Reed amend #4154 (To reduce the energy burden of low income families, seniors and individuals with disabilities by increasing funding for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) by \$2.6 billion in FY 2009). Agreed to by voice vote.

DeMint amend #4328 (To provide for a deficit-neutral reserve fund for Social Security reform). The amendment was not agreed to **40-58**.

Biden amend #4164 (funding for the COPS provision) as modified. **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Dole amend #4208 (To increase amounts budgeted for States and local governments for expenses related to immigration enforcement training and support). **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Dodd amend #4254 (To increase funding for the NIH, CDC and HRSA for autism research, education and early detection). **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Allard amend #4232 (Cut funding to programs given an ineffective rating by OMB). The amendment was not agreed to **29-68**.

Brown amend #4155 (To improve the training of manufacturing workers). **Agreed to by voice vote.**

Brownback amend #4284 (Commission on Budgetary Accountability). The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **49-48**.

Kohl amend #4197 (pilot program for National and State background checks). The amendment was agreed to **89-7**.

The Senate recessed at 7:30 PM for 30 minutes.

The Senate reconvened at 8:00 PM.

Menendez amend #4373 (establish a reserve for studying the effect of cooperation with law enforcement). Agreed to by voice vote.

Vitter amend #4309 (to create a reserve fund to ensure that Federal assistance does not go to sanctuary cities that ignore the immigration laws of the US and create safe havens for illegal aliens and potential terrorists). Conrad Motion to Table. The amendment was **Tabled 58-40**.

The following Manager's Amendment was agreed to by voice vote en bloc:

Vitter 4243 (Adam Walsh Act).

Roberts 4244 (small businesses).

Martinez 4229 (State Medicaid payments).

Hatch 4297 (traumatic brain injury program).

Coleman 4264 (Anti-Racism Conference).

Dole 4349 (help rural areas).

Barrasso 4248 (Medicare payment policies).

Grassley 4261 (reduce DOD contracting waste).  
Burr 4153  
Enzi 4214 (deficit neutral reserve fund from mineral revenue).  
Enzi 4214 (deficit neutral reserve fund for animal health program).  
Klobuchar 4287 (Yellow Ribbon)  
Kennedy 4148  
Biden 4166 (Violence Against Women Act).  
Feinstein 4225 (State Criminal Alien Assistance Program).  
Dodd 4253 (Maternal and Child Health Block Grant).  
Klobuchar 4286 (GI Bill)  
Pryor 4179 (student achievement)  
Lautenberg 4210 (Infrastructure)  
Dorgan 4199 (IRA rollover)  
Sessions 4289  
Nelson 4285 (Survivor Benefit Plan)  
Reid 4162 (Armed Forces eligibility)  
Lieberman-Collins 4211 (FEMA)  
Carper-Coburn 4176 (recovery audits)  
Sessions-Casey 4172 (GI Bill)  
Voinovich-Stabenow 4219 (struggling companies)  
Clinton-Warner 4227 (Lifespan Respite Care Act).  
Casey-Grassley 4352 (food supply)  
Smith-Clinton 4364 9HIV)  
Lincoln-Snowe 4195 (child tax credit).

Boxer amend #4368 (increase funding for the DOJ to enforce child protection laws).  
Agreed to **89-6**.

Ensign amend #4335 (Child Custody Protection Act). Not agreed to **49-49**.

DeMint amend #4340 (point of order against bills that would raise Gas prices). Point of order that the amendment violates the Budget Act. DeMint Motion to Waive the Budget Act. The motion failed **39-59**. The point of order is sustained and the amendment **falls**.

Cornyn amend 4313 (to protect the family budget from runaway Government spending by increasing the number of Senators necessary to waive the PAYGO Point of Order from 60 to 100). Point of order that the amendment violates the Budget Act. Cornyn Motion to Waive the Budget Act. The motion failed **27-71**. The point of order is sustained and the amendment **falls**.

Kyl amend 4348 (R&D Tax Credit). The amendment was not agreed to **49-50**.

DeMint amend #4347 (Earmark Reform). Conrad point of order that the amendment violates the Budget Act. DeMint Motion to Waive the Budget Act. The motion failed **29-71**. The point of order is sustained and the amendment **falls**.

Landrieu amend # (protect family businesses and farmers). Not agreed to **43-77**.

Kyl amend 4372 (To protect small businesses, family ranches, and farms from the Death Tax by providing a \$5 million exemption, a low rate for smaller estates and a maximum rate no higher than 35%). Not agreed to **48-50**.

Grassley amend #4276 (pay-as-you-go AMT ). The amendment failed **47-51**.

Managers' package approved by voice vote.

Brown 4678

Chambliss 4230

Obama 4330

Thune 4268

Bunning 4186

Alexander 4311

Gregg 4357

Clinton 4361

Bingaman 4370

Dorgan 4200

Smith 4334

Snowe 4376

Allard 4159

Baucus 4333

Kohl 4255

Hatch 4283

DeMint 4345

DeMint amend #4339 (health insurance outside the workplace). The amendment failed **41-57**.

Boxer amend # (SCHIP to cover pregnant woman). Agreed to **70-27**.

Allard amend # (coverage for pregnant women). Not agreed to **46-52**.

DeMint amend #4349 (Deduct Health Insurance from Taxes). Not agreed to **45-51**.

Biden amend # (Restoring money for International Affairs). Agreed to **73-23**.

Vitter amend #4299 (Importation of prescription drugs). Agreed to by **73-23**.

**S. Con. Res. 70 (Budget Resolution)**. Final passage. Passed by a vote of **51-44**.

The Senate proceeded to a period of morning business.

H. Con. Res. 316 (Adjournment of the House of Representatives). Agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

S. Con. Res. 71 (Authorizing the use of the Rotund of the Capitol for the restoration of the Gold Medal to Michael Ldebake, MD). Agreed to by UC.

S. Res. 486 (Congratulating the X Prize Foundation). Agreed to by UC.

S. Res. 487 (Designating March 8, 2008 as National Rehabilitation Counselors Appreciation Day). Agreed to by UC.

S. Res. 488 (Designating the week beginning March 16, 2008 as National Safe Place Week). Agreed to by UC.

S. Res. 489 (Recognizing April 2008 as Public Radio Recognition Month). Agreed to by UC.

S. Res. 485 (Relative to the death of Howard Metzenbaum, former U.S. Senator for the State of Ohio). Agreed to by UC.

The Senate proceeded to an Executive Session.

The following nominations were agreed to by Unanimous Consent:

Michael F. Duffy, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term of six years expiring August 30, 2012.  
Kristine L. Svinicki, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2012.

John E. Osborn, of Delaware, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2009.

Ondray T. Harris, of Virginia, to be Director, Community Relations Service, for a term of four years.

David W. Hagy, of Texas, to be Director of the National Institute of Justice.

John S. Bresland, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

John S. Bresland, of New Jersey, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years.

Thomas C. Gilliland, of Georgia, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for the remainder of the term expiring May 18, 2011.

James Francis Moriarty, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Javaid Anwar, of Nevada, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2007.

Javaid Anwar, of Nevada, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation for a term expiring December 10, 2013.

William J. Hybl, of Colorado, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2009.

Elizabeth F. Bagley, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2008.

Thomas C. Carper, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Reform Board (Amtrak) for a term of five years.

Nancy A. Naples, of New York, to be a Member of the Reform Board (Amtrak) for a term of five years.

Ana M. Guevara, of Florida, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years.

Goli Ameri, of Oregon, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Educational and Cultural Affairs).

William Joseph Hawe, of Washington, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Washington for the term of four years.

Larry Woodrow Walther, of Arkansas, to be Director of the Trade and Development Agency.

Neil Romano, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

Gregory B. Jaczko, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2013.

John J. Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Commerce.

Douglas H. Shulman, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the term prescribed by law.

Robert F. Cohen, Jr., of West Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term of six years expiring August 30, 2012.

David J. Kramer, of Massachusetts, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor.

Jamsheed K. Choksy, of Indiana, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2014.

Dawn Ho Delbanco, of New York, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2014.

Gary D. Glenn, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2014.

David Hertz, of Indiana, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2014.

Marvin Bailey Scott, of Indiana, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for the remainder of the term expiring January 26, 2010.

Carol M. Swain, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the National Council on the Humanities for a term expiring January 26, 2014.

Jeffrey J. Grieco, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Joxel Garcia, of Connecticut, to be Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, subject to the qualifications therefor as provided by law and regulations, and to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Jan Cellucci, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2012.

William J. Hagenah, of Illinois, to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2012.

Mark Y. Herring, of South Carolina, to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2012.

Julia W. Bland, of Louisiana, to be a Member of the National Museum and Library Services Board for a term expiring December 6, 2012.

Sally Epstein Shaywitz, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2011.

Frank Philip Handy, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2011.

Jonathan Baron, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the National Board for Education Sciences for a term expiring November 28, 2011.

Margaret Scobey, of Tennessee, to be Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

4 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

4 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

19 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Navy.

The Senate will convene at 12:00 PM on Tuesday, March 18, 2008 for a pro forma session. The Senate will then recess until 11:00 AM on Friday, March, 21 2008 for a pro forma session. The Senate will then recess until 10:00 AM on Monday, March 24, 2008 for a pro forma session. The Senate will then recess until 9:00 AM on Thursday, March 27, 2008 for a pro forma session.

The Senate will then recess until 2:00 PM on Monday, March 31, 2008 and will proceed to a period of morning business.

The Senate adjourned at 2:30 AM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM and will resume consideration of H. Con. Res. 79 (Concurrent Budget Resolution). Sen. Bingaman will be recognized to offer an amendment. Votes are expected.

S. 2745 (Extend agricultural programs beyond March 15, 2008, to suspend permanent price support authorities beyond that date and for other purposes). Agreed to by voice vote.

### **H. Con. Res. 79 (Concurrent Budget Resolution).**

Bingaman amend #4173 (To provide additional funding resources in FY2009 for investments in education). Laid aside.

Conrad amend #4190 (Add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for repealing the 1993 rate increase for alternative minimum tax for individuals). Laid aside.

Kyl amend #4191 (To protect small businesses, family ranches and farms from the Death Tax). Laid aside.

Specter amend #4189 (Restoring the Alternative Minimum Tax rates that had been in effect prior thereto). Laid aside.

Salazar amend #4196 (Reform the estate tax to avoid subjecting thousands of families) as modified.. Laid aside.

Bunning amend #4192 (To repeal the tax increase on Social Security benefits imposed by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993). Laid aside.

Conrad amend #4204 (To add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for repealing the 1993 increase in the income tax on Social Security benefits). Laid aside.

Specter amend #4203 (To increase funding for the National Institutes of Health and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program). Laid aside.

Dorgan amend #4198 (To increase the Indian Health Service by \$1 billion in FY 2009). Laid aside.

Alexander amend #4207 (establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve energy efficiency). Laid aside.

Kennedy amend #4151 (to add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for increasing federal student loan limits). Laid aside.

Lincoln amend #4194 (To provide the Veterans Benefits Administration with additional resources to more effectively meet their increasing workload and to better address the unacceptably large claims backlog). Laid aside.

Sununu amend #4221 (To save lives, promote overall health care efficiency, and lower the cost for the delivery of health care services by facilitating the deployment and use of electronic prescribing technologies by physicians). Laid aside.

Alexander amend #4222 (To take \$670,000 used by the EEOC in bringing actions against employers that require their employees to speak English, and instead use the money to teach English to adults through the Department of Education's English Literacy Education State Grant program). Laid aside.

Sessions amend #4231 (To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund for border security, immigration enforcement, and criminal alien removal programs). Laid aside.

Cornyn amend #4242 (protect the family budget). Laid aside.

Pryor amend #4181 (To add deficit-neutral reserve fund for Science Parks). Laid aside.

Allard amend #4246 (To raise taxes by an unprecedented \$1.4 trillion for the purpose of fully funding 111 new or expanded federal spending programs). Laid aside.

Menendez amend #4259 (To establish a reserve fund for immigration reform and enforcement). Laid aside.

The Senate will convene at 10:15 AM and proceed to a moment of silence to five years of service and sacrifice of our troops and our families for the war in Iraq and remember our troops serving in Afghanistan and throughout the world. Following the moment of silence, the Senate will resume consideration of H. Con. Res. 79 (Concurrent Budget Resolution). The "vote-a-rama" will begin as early as 11:00 AM. Votes are expected to occur throughout the day.

The Senate adjourned at 9:00 PM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008**

The Senate will convene on Tuesday, March 11 at 10:00 AM and will be in morning business for one hour. At 11:00 AM, the Senate will resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 70 (Budget Resolution). The Senate will recess from 12:30 to 2:15 PM for the party lunches.

The Senate convened and proceeded with a period of morning business.

S. 2738 (A bill to identify and remove criminal aliens incarcerated in correctional facilities in the United States and for other purposes). 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

S. 2739 (A bill to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior, the Forest Service, and the Department of Energy, to implement further the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

**S. Con. Res. 70 (Budget Resolution).**

At 12:25 PM, the Senate recessed for party caucuses.

The Senate convened at 2:15 PM.

H. Con. Res. 313 (Authorizing the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to honor the five years of service and sacrifice of our troops and their families in the war in Iraq and to remember those who are serving our nation in Afghanistan and throughout the world). Agreed to by unanimous consent.

**S. Con. Res. 70 (Budget Resolution).**

Baucus amend #4160 (To provide tax relief to middle-class families and small businesses, property tax relief to homeowners, relief to those whose homes were damaged or destroyed by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and tax relief to America's troops and veterans). Laid aside.

Under a unanimous consent agreement, 10 hours of debate time on the Budget Resolution were yielded back.

Graham amend #4170 (Regarding the income tax rate structure). Laid aside.

The Senate proceeded with Morning Business.

S. 2516 (Assist members of the Armed Forces in obtaining United States citizenship). Agreed to by voice vote, as amended.

S. Res. 390 (Designating March 11, 2008, as "National Funeral Director and Mortician Recognition Day"). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 479 (Designating March 20 as "National HIV-AIDS Awareness Day"). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Con. Res. 306 (Permitting the use of the Rotunda as part of the Days of Remembrance events). Agreed to by voice vote.

H. Con. Res. 270 (Make Corrections in the enrollment of a bill). Agreed to by voice vote.

H. R. 1593 (Reauthorize a grant program). Agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, March 12, 2008. The Senate will resume consideration of H. Con. Res. 79 (Concurrent Budget Resolution). Sen. Bingaman will be recognized to offer an amendment. Votes are expected.

The Senate adjourned at 8:53 PM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 2:00 PM and will be in a period of morning business for one hour. At 3:00 PM, the Senate will begin consideration of the Budget Resolution.

The Senate convened and proceeded with Morning Business.

S. 2734 (Aid families facing foreclosure). The second reading of the bill was agreed to by voice vote. Further consideration was objected to. The bill was placed on the Senate Calendar.

**S. Con. Res. 612 (Budget Resolution).**

S. Con. Res. 66 (175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Agreement with Thailand). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. 2738 (Criminal aliens in America). 1<sup>st</sup> reading

S. 2739 (Department of Energy jobs). 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

S. Res. 178 (SoS to women murdered in Guatemala). Agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate will convene on Tuesday, March 11 at 10:00 AM and will be in morning business for one hour. At 11:00 AM, the Senate will resume consideration of S. Con. Res. 612 (Budget Resolution). The Senate will recess from 12:30 to 2:15 PM for the party lunches.

The Senate adjourned at 7:20 PM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 10:00 AM and will proceed with Morning Business. There will be no votes during Friday's session. Sen. Reid announced that the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the Budget Resolution next week.

S. 2734 (A bill to aid families and neighborhoods facing home foreclosure and address the subprime mortgage crisis). 1<sup>st</sup> reading. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading objected to.

H.R. 1084 (An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and so forth and for other purposes). 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

H.R. 1424 (An act to amend section 712 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974). 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

H.R. 5159 (Establish the office of the Capitol Visitors Center within the Office of the Architect of the Capitol). 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

S. 2733 (Higher Education Act Extension). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 476 (Greek Independence Day). Agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate will convene at 2:00 PM on Monday, March 10 and will be in a period of morning business. At 3:00 PM, the Senate will begin consideration of the Budget Resolution.

The Senate adjourned at 1:30 PM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM and will be in morning business for one hour. At 10:30 AM, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act). There may be a vote as early as 10:50 AM on Vitter amend #4097 (To allow the prevailing party in certain civil actions related to consumer product safety rules to recover attorney fees).

The Senate convened and proceeded with Morning Business.

The following bills were considered en bloc:

S. 2709 (Increase the penalties for illegally re-entering the United States). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2710 (Authorize the Department of Homeland Security to use an employers failure to timely resolve discrepancies with the social security). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2711 (Regarding unauthorized aliens). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2712 (Require the Secretary of Homeland Security to complete at least 700 miles of reinforced fencing along the southwest border by December 31, 2010). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2713 (Prohibit appropriated funds from being used under section 642a of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2714 (Close the loophole that allowed the 9/11 hijackers to obtain credit cards). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2415 (Declare English as a national language of the government of the United States). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2716 (Authorize the National Guard to provide support for the border control activities). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2717 (Provide for enhanced Federal enforcement of and state and local assistance in enforcement of the immigrant laws of the United States). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2718 (Withhold 10% of the Federal funding appropriated for highway construction and maintenance from states that issue drivers licenses to individuals without verifying the legal status of such individuals). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2719 (Provide the executive order 13166 shall have no force or effect). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2720 (Withhold Federal financial assistance from each country that denies or unreasonably delays the acceptance of nationals of such countries who are ordered removed from the United States and prohibit the issuance of visas of nationals of such

countries). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2721 (Amend the Immigration Nationality Act). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

S. 2722 (Prohibit aliens who are repeat drunk drivers from obtaining legal status or immigration benefits). The bill was read for the first time. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

#### **S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act).**

Vitter amend #4097 (To allow the prevailing party in certain civil actions related to consumer product safety rules to recover attorney fees). Yeas and nays ordered. Pryor motion to table. The motion was agreed to by a vote of 56-39. The amendment falls.

Brown amend #4132 (To authorize the temporary refusal of admission into the customs territory of the United States of consumer products manufactured by companies that violated consumer product safety rules). Laid aside.

Feinstein amend #4104 (To prohibit the manufacture, sale or distribution in commerce of certain children's products and child care articles that contain specified phthalates). Agreed to by voice vote.

The following amendments were considered en bloc:

Dodd amend #4092 (Ensure the use of safe equestrian helmets), as modified. Agreed to by voice vote.

McCaskill amend #4101 (Revise the section on Inspector General reports). Agreed to by voice vote.

Boxer amend #4112 (Clarify the requirement to include cautionary statements on advertisements). Agreed to by voice vote.

Landrieu amend #4120 (Identify and validate alternative technologies for the facilitation of recalls of durable infant or toddler products). Agreed to by voice vote.

Collins amend #4123 (Regarding any violation of the whistleblower provisions). Agreed to by voice vote.

Klobuchar amend #4128 (Revise the inaccessible component rule for children's products). Agreed to by voice vote.

Nelson amend #4130 (Promulgate consumer product safety rules), as modified. Agreed to by voice vote.

Obama amend #4113 (Expand requirements with respect to information in recall notices). Agreed to by voice vote.

Obama amend #4114 (Study on the effectiveness of authorities relating to the safety of imported consumer products). Agreed to by voice vote.

Durbin amend #4141 (Modify the automatic residential garage door operators standards requirements). Agreed to by voice vote.

Inouye amend #4136 (Technical change). Agreed to by voice vote.

Inouye amend #4137 (Modify the scope of products on which section 15(b) applies). Agreed to by voice vote.

Inouye amend #4138 (Regarding a study of preventable injuries and deaths of minority children related to consumer products). Agreed to by voice vote.

Snowe amend #4143 (Regarding impacts on small businesses of the revised civil penalties provisions). Agreed to by voice vote.

Kyl amend #4116 (Provide that attorney-client privileged information shall retain the same protections), as modified. Agreed to by voice vote.

Kyl amend #4118 (Require the court to review the reasonableness of fees), as modified. Agreed to by voice vote.

Pryor amend #4090 (Technical Correction). Agreed to by voice vote.

Cardin amend #4103 (require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to develop training standards for product safety inspectors). Agreed to by voice vote.

Dorgan amend #4098 (ban the importation of toys made by companies that have a persistent pattern of violating consumer product safety standards). Agreed to by voice vote.

Casey amend #4109 (Study the use of formaldehyde in the manufacturing of textiles and apparel articles), as modified. Agreed to by voice vote.

Cornyn amend #4108 (Provide appropriate procedures for individual whistleblowers), as modified. Agreed to by voice vote.

Klobuchar amend #4088 (authorize the Commission by rule to exempt lead crystal from the ban on lead in children's products if the Commission determines that the lead content is not absorbable and does not have an adverse impact on public safety). Agreed to by voice vote.

Landrieu amend #4120 (identify and validate alternative technologies for the facilitation of recalls of durable infant or toddler products). Agreed to by voice vote.

Feinstein amend #4104 (prohibit the manufacture, sale, or distribution in commerce of certain children's products and child care articles that contain specified phthalates). Agreed to by voice vote.

Pryor unanimous consent request that cloture be withdrawn, any remaining pending amendments be withdrawn, the Senate proceed to third reading of the bill. The Senate then proceed to consideration of H.R. 4040 and strike all after the enacting clause and insert the text of S. 2663, as amended. The Senate proceed to a bill on passage of H.R. 4040, as amended; and S. 2663 be returned to the calendar. All was agreed to by voice vote.

**H. R. 4040 (Consumer Product Safety Act), as amended. Yeas and nays ordered. The bill as amended was agreed to by a vote of 79-13.**

The Senate proceeded to an Executive Session in order to consider the following nomination:

Cal. #466, Hector E. Morales to be Representative of the United States to the Organization of the American States. The nomination was confirmed by voice vote.

S. Res. 475 (Congratulating Iowa State University). Agreed to by voice vote.

The following were considered en bloc:

H. R. 1084 (Amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961). The first reading of the bill was agreed to. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

H. R. 1424 (Amend section 712 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974). The first reading of the bill was agreed to. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

H. R. 5159 (Establish the Office of the Capitol Visitor's Center within the Office of the Architect of the Capitol). The first reading of the bill was agreed to. Further consideration of the bill was objected to.

The Senate will convene at 10:00 AM on Friday, March 7, 2008. The Senate will proceed with Morning Business. There will be no votes during Friday's session. Sen. Reid announced that the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the Budget Resolution next week.

The Senate adjourned at 6:00 PM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 and will be in a period of morning business for one hour. The Senate will then resume consideration of S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act).

The Senate convened and proceeded to a period of morning business.

### **S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act).**

Cornyn amend #4108 (to provide appropriate procedures for individual actions by whistleblowers, to provide for the appropriate of costs and expenses on whistleblower cases). Laid aside.

Klobuchar amend #4105 (to authorize appropriations for necessary or appropriate travel, subsistence and related expenses) as modified. Laid aside.

Vitter amend #4097 (To allow the prevailing party in certain civil actions related to consumer product safety rules to recover attorney fees). Laid aside.

Casey amend #4109 (To require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study the use of formaldehyde in the manufacturing of textiles and apparel articles and to prescribe consumer product safety standards with respect to such articles). Laid aside.

Dorgan amend #4122 (To strike the provision allowing the Commission to certify a proprietary laboratory for third party testing). Laid aside.

Dorgan amend #4098 (To ban the importation of toys made by companies that have a persistent pattern of violating consumer product safety standards). Laid aside.

Cardin amend #4103 (To require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to develop training standards for product safety inspectors). Laid aside.

Klobuchar amend #4105 (To authorize appropriations for necessary or appropriate travel, subsistence and related expenses). The amendment was agreed to by a vote of **96-0**.

DeMint amend #4124 (Strike Section 31, relating to garage door opener standards). Laid aside.

Cornyn amend #4094 (Prohibit State attorneys general from entering into contingency fee agreements for legal or expert witness services in certain civil actions) as modified. Pryor Motion to Table the amendment. The Motion to Table was agreed to **51-45**.

DeMint amend #4096 (). Withdrawn.

Reid filed cloture on **S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act)**.

S. Res. 455 (Calling for peace in Darfur). Agreed to by voice vote.

H. Con. Res. 289 (Honoring and praising the NAACP 99th anniversary). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 462 (Asbestos Awareness Week). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 473 (National support the troops and their families day). Agreed to by voice vote.

S. Res. 674 (Expressing the Sense of the Senate that providing breakfast in schools through the national school breakfast program has a positive impact on the lives and classroom performance of low-income children). Agreed to by voice vote.

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM on Thursday, March 6, and will be in morning business for one hour. At 10:30 AM, the Senate will resume consideration of **S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act)**. There may be a vote as early as 10:50 AM on Vitter amend #4097 (To allow the prevailing party in certain civil actions related to consumer product safety rules to recover attorney fees).

The Senate adjourned at 7:17 PM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 10:00 AM and will be in a period for Morning Business for one hour. The Senate will then resume consideration of S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act). The Senate will recess from 12:30 – 2:15 for party caucuses.

The Senate convened and proceeded with Morning Business.

The Senate proceeded to a Legislative Session.

### **S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act).**

Pryor amend #4090 (Makes technical changes). Laid aside.

Cornyn amend #4094 (To prohibit State attorneys general from entering into contingency fee agreements for legal or expert witness services in certain civil actions relating to Federal consumer product safety rules, regulations, standards, certification or labeling requirements). Laid aside.

The following amendments were considered en bloc:

DeMint amend #4095 (House bill as complete substitute).

DeMint amend #4096 (Whistle-blower provision).

Laid aside.

The Senate recessed from 12:30 PM to 2:15 PM for weekly party caucuses.

The Senate convened and proceeded with a Legislative Session.

### **S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act).**

Feinstein amend #4104 (To prohibit the manufacture, sale or distribution in commerce of certain children's products and child care articles that contain specified phthalates). Laid aside.

DeMint amend #4095 (House bill as complete substitute). Pryor motion to table the amendment. Yeas and nays ordered. The motion was agreed to by a vote of **58-38**. The amendment falls.

S. Res. 467 (Honoring the life of Myron Cope). Agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

S. Res. 471 (Designating March 1, 2008 as National Glassmans Stromsbasinia Awareness Day). Agreed to by UC.

S. J. Res. 472 (Commending the employees of the Department of Homeland Security).  
Agreed to by UC.

The Senate will convene at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 and will be in a period of morning business for one hour. The Senate will then resume consideration of S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act).

The Senate adjourned at 6:43 PM.

## **SENATE FLOOR PROCEEDINGS**

**MONDAY, MARCH 3, 2008**

The Senate will convene at 2:00 PM and will be in a period of morning business until 3:30 PM. The Senate will then proceed to the Motion to invoke Cloture on the Motion to Proceed to S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act). At 5:30 PM, the Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act).

S. 12 (To promote home ownership, manufacturing, and economic growth). Second reading. Further readings were objected to and the bill was placed on the calendar.

The Senate proceeded to a period of morning business.

The Senate proceeded to an Executive Session.

Cal. #439 (Mark R. Filip to be Deputy Attorney General). Agreed to by Unanimous Consent.

The Senate returned to a period of morning business.

**Motion to Proceed to S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act).** Motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed was agreed to by a vote of **86-1**.

S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act).

The Senate proceeded with Morning Business.

The Senate will convene at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, March 4, 2008. There will be a period for Morning Business for one hour. The Senate will then resume consideration of S. 2663 (Consumer Product Safety Act). The Senate will recess from 12:30 – 2:15 for party caucuses.

The Senate adjourned at 6:25 PM.